

P20211.A02

the two pivots 27g, the lower front barrier blade 27c2 of the front pair of barrier blades 27c and the lower rear barrier blade 27d2 of the rear pair of barrier blades 27d are pivoted at the other pivot 27g, and the rear pair of barrier blades 27d are constantly biased to rotate in directions to close the photographic aperture 27a of the panel (front end wall) 27b by the two torsion springs 27e, respectively, which are arranged on opposite sides of the rear pair of barrier blades 27d in a radial direction. Due to this structure, since the barrier drive ring 26 is biased by the two torsion springs 27e in the direction opposite to the biasing direction of the two helical extension springs 28, two helical extension springs 28 are required to bias the barrier drive ring 26 with a large biasing force relative to the biasing force of the two torsion springs 27e.---

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows (a marked-up copy of claim 1 is attached at the end of this document):

1. (Amended - Clean Copy) A lens barrier opening/closing device of a movable lens barrel driven to move between an accommodation position and a photographing position, comprising:

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P20211.A02

at least one barrier blade which is driven to open and close a photographic aperture formed at the front end wall of said movable lens barrel when said movable lens barrel is in said photographing position and said accommodation position, respectively;

a barrier drive ring driven to rotate about an optical axis to drive said at least one barrier blade;

a first biasing device which biases said barrier drive ring in a predetermined rotational direction;

a rotational barrel which at least rotates about said optical axis when said movable lens barrel moves between said accommodation position and said photographing position;

a rotational-force receiving surface formed on said barrier drive ring, said rotational-force receiving surface extending parallel to said optical axis; and

a rotational-force transmission surface formed on said rotational barrel, said rotational-force transmission surface extending parallel to said optical axis,

wherein said rotational-force receiving surface and said rotational-force transmission surface are engaged with each other to rotate said barrier drive ring together with said rotational barrel about said optical axis in a direction against a biasing force of said first biasing device when said movable lens barrel moves from one of said photographing position and said accommodation position to the other of said photographing position and said accommodation position.